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Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Central Emergency Response Fund

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report provides a description of the activities of the Central Emergency Response Fund from 1 January to 31 December 2014. The Fund continues to demonstrate its effectiveness as a tool for collective emergency response by providing reliable, timely and targeted funding for life-saving humanitarian projects. During the reporting period, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated $460.8 million from the rapid response and underfunded emergency grant windows to support activities in 44 countries and one territory. Member States and the private sector contributed $479.2 million to the Fund for 2014. In 2014, the Emergency Relief Coordinator commissioned two scoping studies to look at the role of the Fund in the evolving humanitarian landscape and to ensure that contributions entrusted to the Fund effectively and efficiently served those people most affected by crises.

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I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/102, entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations", in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the detailed use of the Central Emergency Response Fund. The report covers the Fund's activities from 1 January to 31 December 2014.

II. Overview of the funding commitments of the Fund

2. During the reporting period, the Emergency Relief Coordinator approved grants totalling $460.8 million to projects in 44 countries and one territory (see table 1). Allocations made during that period included $290.7 million for new or rapidly deteriorating crises through the rapid response window of the Fund and $170.1 million for critically underfunded crises through the underfunded emergency window. By the end of 2014, Fund allocations, since its inception in 2006, exceeded $3.7 billion to 91 countries and territories.

Table 1
Central Emergency Response Fund allocations from 1 January to 31 December 2014
(United States dollars)

	Rapid response window	*Underfunded emergency window*	*Total*
Amount approved	290 743 928	170 055 252	460 799 180
Number of recipient countries or territories	34	22	45[a]
Number of projects funded	362	228	590

[a] Certain countries or territories received allocations from both funding windows.

3. In accordance with the Secretary-General's Bulletin of 23 April 2010 (ST/SGB/2010/5), two thirds of the grant element of the Fund is reserved for its rapid response window. Allocations from this window promote early response to humanitarian needs by supporting time-critical, life-saving humanitarian activities in the initial stages of a sudden-onset crisis or following a significant deterioration in an existing emergency. During the reporting period, the Fund played a critical role in the response to emergencies in 34 countries and one territory through its rapid response window (see table 2). More than half of available rapid response funding went to South Sudan ($53.7 million), Iraq ($25.7 million), the Central African Republic ($25.1 million), the Sudan ($23.2 million) and Ethiopia ($21 million). Those top rapid response recipients faced protracted but rapidly evolving emergencies with sudden spikes in humanitarian need.

Table 2
Rapid response window allocations in 2014
(United States dollars)

Country or area	*Total allocations*
Afghanistan	3 991 021
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	3 175 301
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2 032 306
Burundi	1 978 455
Cameroon	13 809 670
Central African Republic	25 138 067
Chad	12 690 863
Congo	3 760 849
Democratic Republic of the Congo	6 956 312
Ethiopia	20 982 700
Guatemala	5 445 619
Guinea	8 354 749
Haiti	2 668 206
Honduras	2 600 021
Iraq	25 675 458
Kenya	13 635 078
Liberia	1 907 059
Libya	3 370 496
Nepal	1 870 201
Niger	5 181 281
Nigeria	1 458 309
Pakistan	4 907 639
Occupied Palestinian Territory	10 825 145
Paraguay	2 817 063
Serbia	2 164 276
Sierra Leone	4 497 599
Solomon Islands	1 776 122
Somalia	1 450 242
South Sudan	53 671 180
Sri Lanka	2 052 680
Sudan	23 232 114
Uganda	11 919 440
Ukraine	3 975 226
Zimbabwe	773 181
Total	**290 743 928**

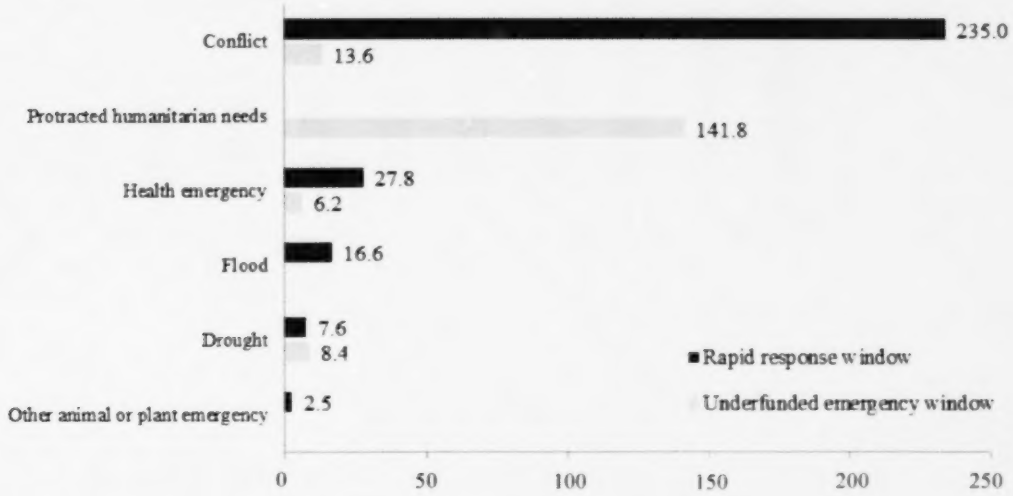
4. One third of the grant element of the Fund is reserved for emergencies that attract insufficient funding during the year. Allocations from the underfunded emergency window of the Fund allow partners to carry out essential life-saving activities in chronically underfunded situations and help to draw attention to critical gaps in the humanitarian response. During the two rounds of underfunded emergency window allocations in 2014, the Emergency Relief Coordinator approved $170.1 million. The highest amounts went to Somalia ($20 million) and the Sudan ($20 million). During the first round, the Fund allocated $95.6 million to 11 countries (see table 3) facing the most critical funding shortfalls. During the second round, the Fund provided $74.5 million to help humanitarian partners facing critical shortfalls to respond to the combined regional consequences of violent conflict, mass displacement of people and deepening food insecurity in 11 countries across the Sahel and Horn of Africa regions (see para. 22, below).

Table 3
Underfunded emergency window allocations in 2014
(United States dollars)

Country or area	*First round*	*Second round*
Burkina Faso		3 929 038
Cameroon		4 508 705
Chad	10 030 942	
Colombia	4 505 910	
Djibouti	3 997 512	
Eritrea		2 489 251
Ethiopia		11 593 620
Gambia		2 474 424
Haiti	6 205 232	
Kenya		10 005 413
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	6 497 012	
Mali	11 443 365	
Mauritania		3 464 476
Myanmar	5 532 909	
Niger		7 962 500
Nigeria		3 546 645
Pakistan	9 470 278	
Senegal		4 500 298
Somalia		19 993 757
Sudan	19 986 821	
Uganda	4 019 311	
Yemen	13 897 833	
Total	**95 587 125**	**74 468 127**

5. In 2014, Fund grants were allocated to support life-saving projects in several types of emergencies (see figure I). More than half (54.5 per cent) of funds went to projects supporting conflict-affected people. Most conflict-related allocations went to projects in South Sudan ($50.2 million), the Central African Republic ($25.1 million), Ethiopia ($24.6 million) and the Sudan ($24.5 million).

Figure I
Central Emergency Response Fund, 2014 allocations by emergency type
(Millions of United States dollars)

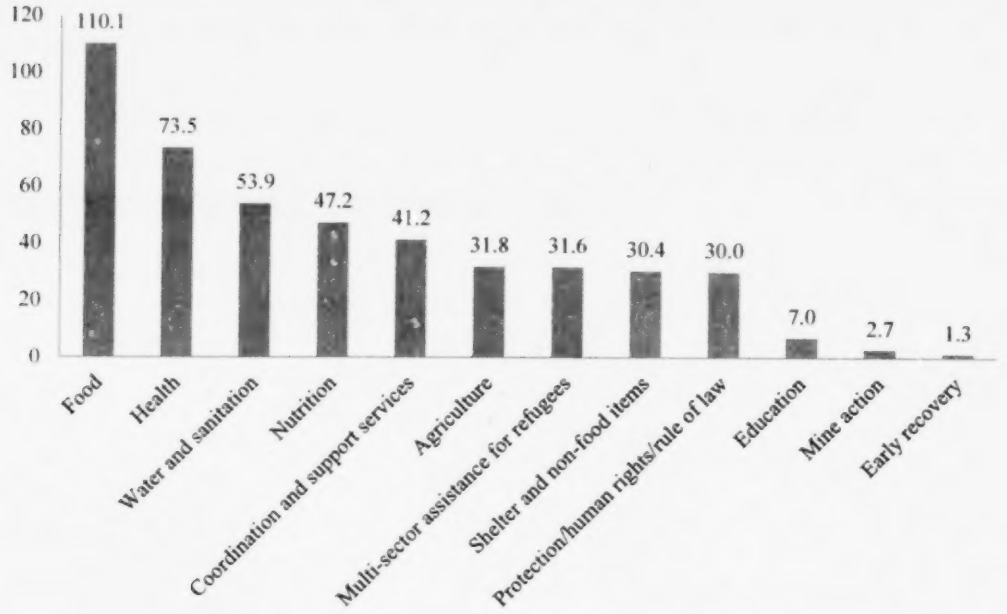


6. In terms of humanitarian sectors, food assistance ($110.1 million), health ($73.4 million) and water and sanitation ($53.9 million) totalled more than 51 per cent of all Fund allocations in 2014. Fund grants were increasingly important in helping to draw attention to and support the rights of crisis-affected people. For example, Fund-supported projects assisted in the registration of hundreds of thousands of displaced South Sudanese people and helped thousands of people in the Central African Republic to replace identification documents that they had lost amid conflict in the country. Fund grants for common services, such as humanitarian air services, logistics, security and telecommunications, were particularly important in helping to establish and scale up operations (see figure II).

Figure II

Central Emergency Response Fund, 2014 grant allocations by sector

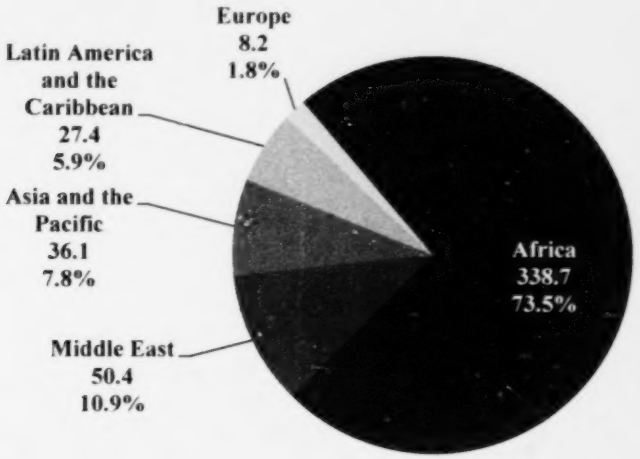
(Millions of United States dollars)



Note: Coordination and support services includes humanitarian air services, logistics, safety and security of staff, and operations and telecommunications.

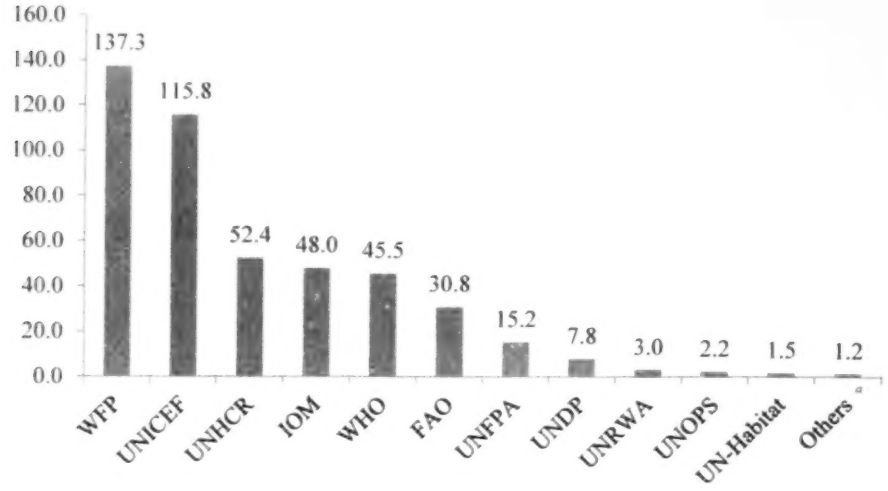
7. Driven by humanitarian demands relating to the crises in the Central African Republic, South Sudan and the Sudan, as well as the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, some $338.7 million, or 73.5 per cent, of total Fund allocations went to emergency activities in Africa. South Sudan was the largest recipient globally, followed by the Sudan and Ethiopia (see annex III for a breakdown by country). The Middle East received 10.9 per cent, Asia and the Pacific 7.8 per cent, Latin America and the Caribbean 5.9 per cent and Europe 1.8 per cent (see figure III).

Figure III
Central Emergency Response Fund, 2014 grant allocations by region
(Millions of United States dollars and percentage)



8. Fund grants are allocated to United Nations programmes, specialized agencies and funds and to the International Organization for Migration. These are referred to collectively as "agencies" herein. As in previous years, the three largest grant-receiving agencies during the reporting period were the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) (see figure IV for a breakdown, including other recipient agencies).

Figure IV
Central Emergency Response Fund, 2014 allocations by agency
(Millions of United States dollars)



Abbreviations: FAO, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; IOM, International Organization for Migration; UNDP, United Nations Development Programme; UNFPA, United Nations Population Fund; UN-Habitat, United Nations Human Settlements Programme; UNHCR, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; UNICEF, United Nations Children's Fund; UNOPS, United Nations Office for Project Services; UNRWA, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East; WFP, World Food Programme; WHO, World Health Organization.

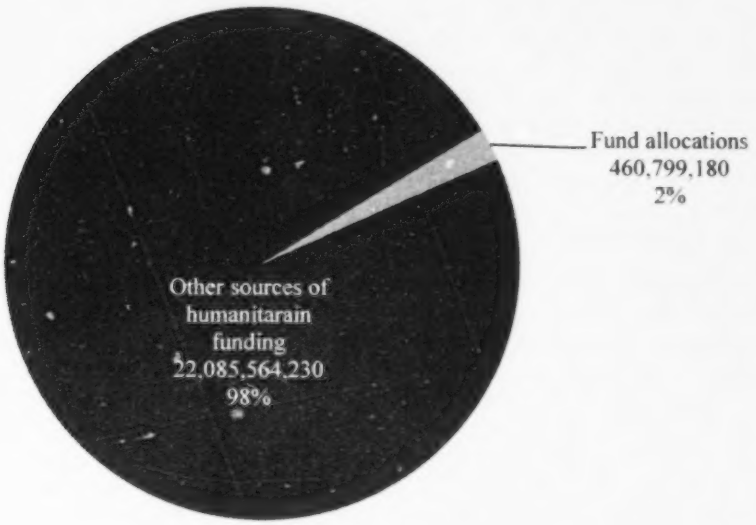
[a] Including Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

9. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 66/119, the Fund maintains a $30 million reserve to provide emergency loans to agencies while their resource mobilization efforts are continuing. A $27 million loan to WFP was approved in 2013 to support the response to the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic. The loan was extended for six months in the fourth quarter of 2014 (see annexes IV and V). WFP used the loan to support its operations in the Syrian Arab Republic and other countries in the region, including Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.

III. Strategic use of the Fund

10. Global humanitarian funding for relief work reached a record $22.5 billion in 2014. The Fund represented 2 per cent of that funding (see figure V). Donor contributions could not keep pace with the growing demand for humanitarian assistance, highlighting the growing gap between needs and the resources available to meet them.

Figure V
Central Emergency Response Fund, 2014 allocations as a percentage of global funding
(United States dollars and percentage)



Source: Financial Tracking Service of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

11. The Fund continued to ensure that allocations focused on the most urgent life-saving needs of crisis-affected people. Given increasingly complex operating environments in which aid agencies must simultaneously meet acute emergency humanitarian needs and tackle the root causes of crises, Fund allocations need a clear strategic focus. Maximizing the impact of Fund resources requires planning and prioritization of activities by humanitarian country teams and resident coordinators/humanitarian coordinators on the basis of the identification of common objectives. Appropriate timing of allocations and ensuring that Fund allocations complement other funding sources are also critical to the strategic use of the Fund in emergency situations.

A. The Fund and system-wide level 3 emergencies

12. In 2014, the Fund supported response activities in the Central African Republic, Iraq and South Sudan. Those were large-scale, unpredictable and rapidly evolving emergencies in which the Fund provided support during the early stages of the escalation of the crisis. The Emergency Relief Coordinator approved further allocations as the situations developed and new needs emerged. In total, the Fund contributed $104.5 million to humanitarian efforts relating to those crises (not including allocations to affected neighbouring countries).

13. The Fund had already allocated significant funding to support the response to the emergency in the Central African Republic, both inside the country and in the region, before it was designated a level 3 emergency in December 2013. Such a declaration means that there has been a substantial deterioration in the situation in a country that requires a short-term significant scale-up of assistance. As the humanitarian situation in the Central African Republic deteriorated during 2014, affecting almost the entire population of 4.5 million people, the Fund allocated an additional $25.1 million. In the first quarter of 2014, $11.1 million from the rapid response window of the Fund helped humanitarian partners in the country to meet the immediate needs of conflict-affected people through the provision of shelter, food and clean water, and services, in the areas of basic health, protection and nutrition. In December, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated an additional $14 million from the Fund to support the scaling-up of efforts targeting communities at risk with protection and urgent relief and to allow partners to expand their presence on the ground to deliver assistance to people in areas previously beyond reach.

14. In December 2013, violence broke out in South Sudan, forcing almost 2 million people from their homes. In January 2014, the Fund allocated $15.3 million to scale up the immediate emergency response in support of improved camp coordination and management, safety and security services for humanitarian personnel and air transport services for relief organizations. The situation continued to deteriorate and the emergency was designated as level 3 in February. To help ensure a prompt response as new needs arose, additional Fund grants in March, June and December brought total Fund allocations for the crisis in South Sudan during the reporting period to $53.7 million. The allocations helped agencies to position critical supplies in hard-to-reach places ahead of the rainy season, when access becomes extremely difficult; contain a cholera outbreak; and, as violence against civilians continued, improve the dire living conditions of displaced people living in protection of civilians sites in Bentiu in the north of the country. Fund allocations also helped to strengthen safety and security measures for humanitarian staff and enabled agencies to conduct needs assessments in remote areas.

15. In 2014, the surge in violence between armed groups and government forces in Iraq left more than 2 million people internally displaced and hundreds of thousands in need of humanitarian assistance. The Fund supported the humanitarian response in early 2014 when fighting broke out in Anbar Province. As the violence spread to northern, central and southern Iraq, the Fund allocated funds in February ($4.5 million), May ($2 million) and July ($4.2 million) to support people fleeing the fighting. The emergency was designated as level 3 in August. In December, following the massive displacement of people in the north, a $15 million Fund allocation was approved for urgent protection services and basic relief assistance, covering food, shelter and health. Allocations to aid operations in Iraq in 2014 totalled $25.7 million. The Emergency Relief Coordinator also allocated $2 million from the Fund in May in response to a polio outbreak in Anbar Province.

16. Given the significant funding requirements of such large-scale crises and the limited amount available through the Fund, the allocations needed to be prioritized and focused on the most urgent needs. Fund support for emergency responses to major emergencies, even those not requiring urgent scaling-up, as in the case of level 3 emergencies, is provided at various stages of a crisis and is based on the

needs identified on the ground. As needs change and situations evolve, Fund allocations help to kick-start or scale up elements of the response.

B. Regionally coordinated Fund support

17. While the Fund does not have a specific regional allocation facility, allocations to several countries simultaneously to support comprehensive, regionally coordinated responses helped humanitarian partners to mitigate interlinked humanitarian challenges.

18. As violence spread throughout the Central African Republic in 2014, more than 419,000 people sought refuge in neighbouring countries. In response, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated rapid response grants from the Fund to meet critical needs in Chad ($22.7 million), the Democratic Republic of the Congo ($5 million), Cameroon ($4.5 million) and the Congo ($3.7 million). United Nations teams in those countries used that funding for protection of and assistance to refugees, returnees and host communities. For example, the humanitarian country team in Cameroon used Fund allocations to treat malnutrition and to provide clean water, food, sanitation, education and health services to more than 125,000 new refugees from the Central African Republic.

19. In 2014, increased violence forced more than 600,000 people from South Sudan to flee their country. During the year, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated $61.9 million to support humanitarian operations relating to the South Sudanese crisis to Ethiopia ($21.7 million), the Sudan ($15.3 million), Kenya ($13.6 million) and Uganda ($11.9 million). Early allocation of those grants helped humanitarian partners to reach the most vulnerable refugees and host communities in border areas with urgent protection and relief support. For example, in Ethiopia, the humanitarian country team focused its Fund assistance, which included food, shelter and clean water, on border entry points and two refugee camps that had been severely affected by floods. Towards the end of the year, given the fluid and unprecedented scale of the crisis in South Sudan, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated further Fund support to Ethiopia, Kenya, the Sudan and Uganda to meet the basic needs of South Sudanese people who had fled across the border.

20. Early Fund allocations to partners responding to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa helped to ensure timely action. As the crisis worsened, new allocations were used to expand operations. In April, the Emergency Relief Coordinator approved a $1.5 million Fund allocation to help agencies to provide health services to affected families in Guinea. As the outbreak spread across the region, the Fund provided additional grants to Sierra Leone in June and to Liberia in July. In August, when commercial airlines reduced their flights, Fund resources helped the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service to transport medical staff and supplies to remote locations in Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone. In September, additional Fund grants went to Guinea, Nigeria and Sierra Leone. More than $15.2 million from the Fund was allocated to treatment and prevention programmes, food assistance and logistical operations in response to the West Africa Ebola outbreak in 2014.

21. In 2014, the Emergency Relief Coordinator used the underfunded emergency window of the Fund to focus support and attention on the Sahel and the Horn of Africa, two regions facing the complex and interlinked consequences of violent conflict, mass displacement and deepening food insecurity. Almost two thirds of the

$170.1 million allocated through that window in 2014 went to operations facing critical funding gaps in those regions. More than 20 million people were displaced across the Sahel in 2014. Humanitarian partners in Chad and Mali received allocations during the first round of those window allocations. Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Gambia, Mauritania, the Niger, Nigeria and Senegal received allocations during the second round. Fund support for the region during 2014 totalled $59.1 million. In the Horn of Africa, where 9 million people were displaced during the year, the Fund supported operations in Djibouti in the first round and allocated funding to Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia in the second round. Allocations to the region totalled $48.1 million in 2014.

C. Advocacy role of the Fund

22. Fund allocations can focus attention on and secure additional support for emergencies. Regionally coordinated allocations from the Fund, such as those for the Ebola crisis and the emergencies in the Central African Republic and South Sudan, were used to support outreach efforts and reinforce messaging that the international community needed to do more to support humanitarian operations. Similarly, the regionally coordinated underfunded emergency window allocations of the Fund to countries in the Sahel and the Horn of Africa helped to highlight two fragile, complex and poorly funded regional crises.

23. At the country level, Fund allocations were also used to support broader humanitarian advocacy initiatives. In Ethiopia, for example, the humanitarian country team concentrated Fund-supported programmes on two refugee camps to ensure that people living there received comprehensive assistance that included food, health, water and shelter. Demonstrating the success of relief efforts in those camps helped the Government to make the case for hosting millions of refugees in the country. In Uganda, Fund-supported projects made it possible for refugees to continue living in host communities. Working through Fund processes also helped humanitarian partners in Uganda to better prioritize and coordinate their activities, boosting donor confidence in their work and helping them to secure additional funding for programmes for displaced communities. In South Sudan, Fund-supported relief work in protection of civilians sites and a number of major donors followed.

IV. Fund administration and management

24. The Fund advisory group was established following General Assembly resolution 60/124 to advise the Secretary-General, through the Emergency Relief Coordinator, on the use and impact of the Fund. In 2014, the group met in May and October and made recommendations to the Secretary-General following both meetings (see A/68/975 and A/69/713, respectively). At the May meeting, the humanitarian coordinators from the Sudan and the Syrian Arab Republic and the resident coordinator from Uganda discussed their views and perspectives on the Fund, its impact in the field and the challenges that they faced in ensuring that Fund allocations were used strategically and for maximum impact. At the October meeting, the group discussed how to deal with the potential misuse of such funds. The group reaffirmed that any misuse of Fund allocations should be handled in

accordance with the existing oversight rules and mechanisms of recipient agencies and asked to be kept informed of continuing system-wide efforts to ensure coherence of fraud treatment within the United Nations. At both meetings, the group held discussions with senior officials of recipient agencies about efforts and initiatives to improve their bilateral partnerships with implementing partners and the related issue of improving the timeliness of future Fund disbursements. Other issues discussed included strengthening the strategic use of the Fund and increasing the Fund's visibility.

25. During the reporting period, the secretariat continued to improve its management of the Fund. In keeping with the recommendations of the advisory group and in consultation with agencies and other partners, the secretariat finalized the implementation of a revised reporting framework for resident coordinator/humanitarian coordinator reports, which is the official reporting tool on the use by humanitarian country teams of Fund support and the impact of such support. The new approach requires that reports be submitted within three months of project completion instead of on a pre-fixed date each year. Doing so has resulted in improved accountability and more timely, accurate and relevant reports that have facilitated improved analysis of the Fund's impact. It has also eliminated the need for interim reports, thereby reducing the reporting burden on agencies.

26. In 2014, the Fund revised its grant application template. The new template is better aligned with the humanitarian programme cycle and links to broader emergency response strategies and needs assessments, including strategic response plans and multi-cluster/sector initial rapid assessments and humanitarian needs overviews. The application template captures gender-related data to inform and improve the humanitarian response, and its results framework makes it easier to track achievements against plans. The template was tested in 2014 and replaced the old template in early 2015.

27. The performance and accountability framework of the Fund is used to define, manage and monitor performance and accountability processes relating to the operation of the Fund. Following recommendations resulting from a review of the performance and accountability framework in 2013, the Fund secretariat introduced a revised set of framework indicators to update, better measure and demonstrate the Fund's impact.

28. In 2014, independent consultants assessed the Fund's contribution to the humanitarian response in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Myanmar and the Sudan. The studies all found that the Fund had significantly strengthened the humanitarian response in each country. The reviews found that the Fund had enabled a timely response, in particular when rapid response applications were submitted in the early stages of a crisis. The reviews also noted the importance of Fund allocations in enabling humanitarian responses in smaller, less visible emergencies in countries with a limited international donor presence. The reviews commended the Fund secretariat for its ability to process submitted applications quickly and efficiently.

29. In 2014, two recipient agencies, UNHCR and WFP, conducted reviews of their use of Fund support. The Fund secretariat supported both evaluations. UNHCR focused specifically on the Fund, while the WFP review looked at humanitarian pooled funds more broadly, but included the Fund. While both studies highlighted significant benefits of the Fund, they identified specific actions for the agencies

themselves and for the Fund secretariat to improve the Fund's use, impact and management. For example, the UNHCR review pointed to a need for additional training on Fund processes and the WFP review urged the Fund to remain firmly focused on supporting life-saving humanitarian activities.

30. In 2014, the Fund secretariat worked with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Humanitarian Financing Task Team to identify best practices for effective cooperation between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) during the grant processes of the Fund. UNICEF and InterAction co-led the exercise and presented their results to the Fund advisory group. This process can help to improve United Nations-NGO partnerships relating to Fund processes and ultimately lead to more efficient and timely implementation of Fund-supported activities.

31. To improve efficiency, accountability and transparency, the Fund secretariat introduced a new internal grant management system in 2014. The grant process of the Fund — application review, approval and revision — now takes place within the grant management system, with clearly established roles and responsibilities for Fund staff. The new system collects detailed information about applications, projects, review processes and timeliness, and it disseminates real-time grant information through the Fund website and other online platforms, including the Financial Tracking Service of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. To ensure transparency, the Fund publishes these data in accordance with the standards of the International Aid Transparency Initiative.

32. In 2014, the Emergency Relief Coordinator commissioned two scoping studies to look at the role of the Fund in the evolving humanitarian landscape and to ensure that contributions entrusted to the Fund effectively and efficiently served those people most affected by crises. The studies, published in March 2015, focused on two issues: whether expanding the annual funding target of the Fund beyond $450 million would better position it to respond to growing global humanitarian needs, and the viability of using United Nations-assessed contributions to fully or partially fund the Fund.

33. The studies suggested that there was broad support for an increased funding target for the Fund, in particular in the light of the growing global funding gap and increasing humanitarian needs. Those interviewed suggested that, if the annual funding target of the Fund were raised, efforts should be made to ensure that it remained focused, well managed, flexible and quick, and continued to be guided by its life-saving criteria to save lives.

34. The reports suggested that greater flexibility with respect to the allocation of funds between the rapid response window and the underfunded emergency window would improve the ability of the Fund to respond effectively, calling into question the need to maintain the General Assembly-mandated two-thirds/one-third funding division between the two windows.

35. The reports also noted that a new funding target should be realistic and achievable, and that donor contributions to a larger Fund should be in the form of additional resources rather than reallocations from other programmes. Interviewees suggested that using United Nations-assessed contributions to fund a larger Fund would help to demonstrate the collective responsibility of Member States to provide humanitarian aid and to improve the predictability and sustainability of funding for

the Fund. They also cautioned, however, that the process involved could reduce the speed and flexibility of the Fund. The Member State representatives interviewed favoured a continuation of decentralized humanitarian financing and expressed little support for using assessed contributions to fund the Fund.

36. During 2015, consultations will be held with stakeholders, including Member States, donors, recipient agencies and the Fund advisory group, to discuss whether or not to increase the Fund's annual funding target and make adjustments to the Fund.

37. To encourage the strategic use of Fund allocations at the field level, the Fund secretariat revamped its training courses to make them more participatory and interactive. Fund workshops are available to resident coordinators/humanitarian coordinators, United Nations country teams, humanitarian cluster and sector leads, and staff of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs who facilitate Fund processes. The new training modules show participants how to prioritize activities on the basis of evidence and in accordance with the most urgent humanitarian needs.

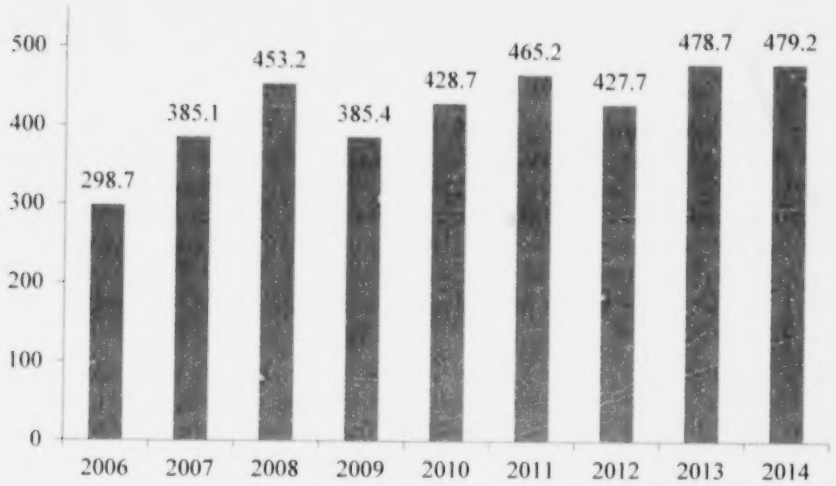
38. In 2014, the Fund secretariat implemented a new resource mobilization and communications strategy and action plan to strengthen relations with long-time supporters of the Fund, while also diversifying the contribution base. In 2014, key Fund stakeholders, including donors and the Fund advisory group, endorsed the strategy and acknowledged significant improvements in donor relations and in the visibility of the Fund and its contributors.

39. Much was achieved in promoting the Fund and demonstrating its value through the production and distribution of quality, user-friendly promotional content that included success stories, photo essays, newsletters, short videos and infographics. The content and usability of the Fund website and social media platforms were significantly improved. To better promote the Fund and its donors at the field level, the Fund secretariat provided clear visibility guidelines for recipient agencies and worked closely with recipient agencies on the joint promotion of Fund-supported projects. The Fund secretariat also worked with various partners to raise the Fund's profile among non-traditional stakeholders. For example, the Fund secretariat teamed up with award-winning musician Pharrell Williams and the United Nations Foundation to raise awareness of the Fund on the International Day of Happiness. The Fund was highlighted in the World Humanitarian Day campaign, which was managed by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

V. Funding levels

40. Between 1 January and 31 December 2014, the Fund received $487.7 million in contributions — the highest ever total — from 52 Member States and observers, two regional authorities, the private sector and individuals. That amount included payments received during the reporting period that were designated for 2013 and 2015. Contributions designated for the fiscal year 2014 reached $479.2 million — also a record and in keeping with a trend of strong support for the Fund (see figure VI). Total pledges for 2014 totalled $482.3 million (see annex II).

Figure VI
Total contributions received by the Central Emergency Response Fund by fiscal year
(Millions of United States dollars)



41. The top 10 donors contributed 90.9 per cent of all contributions that the Fund received in 2014. Since its inception, the Fund has received $3.8 billion in contributions from 125 Member States and observers, three regional authorities, private donors and the public. Since 2006, the Fund has had 41 countries as contributors and recipients.

42. The annual high-level conference of the Fund was held in New York on 17 December 2014. More than 40 Member States and observers, regional organizations and private sector donors attended. Together, those groups pledged $418.6 million to the Fund for operations in 2015. That was $14 million more than had been pledged in 2013 and was the second-highest amount pledged since the creation of the Fund in 2006.

VI. Conclusion

43. Through the generosity of donors, especially the top 10 contributors, the Fund again achieved the objectives assigned to it by the General Assembly. In 2014, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated $460.8 million from the Fund to life-saving humanitarian activities in 45 countries and territories. More than $290.7 million, or 63 per cent of that amount, was allocated to humanitarian activities in new or rapidly deteriorating crises through the rapid response window of the Fund and $170.1 million, or 37 per cent, was allocated to sustain aid operations in poorly funded crises through the underfunded emergency window.

44. The Fund will continue to strengthen its assistance to crisis-affected people by providing timely funding, enabling the humanitarian community to act quickly when

tragedy strikes and steer resources to crises that do not receive the attention that they need and deserve.

45. Leading up to the World Humanitarian Summit, to be held in 2016, and informed by the findings of the two scoping studies by the Fund (see para. 32, above), the Fund will work closely with stakeholders to determine if adjustments to it are required to ensure that it can continue to meet its objectives effectively.

Annex I

A. Central Emergency Response Fund grant element: statement of financial performance from 1 January to 31 December 2014[a]

(United States dollars)

Revenue	
Voluntary contributions[b]	268 234 296
Other transfers	195 448
Investment revenue[c]	1 076 560
Other exchange revenue	9 170 023
Total	**278 676 327**
Expenses	
Grants and other transfers	459 452 202
Other operating expenses[d]	15 898 888
Total	**475 351 090**
Deficit	**(196 674 763)**

[a] Statements were prepared in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards.

[b] Represents voluntary contributions in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards. See annex II for contributions pledged for 2014.

[c] Includes transfer from the loan component of the Central Emergency Response Fund in accordance with General Assembly resolution 66/119.

[d] Includes programme support costs (United Nations) of $12,811,074 and net exchange losses of $2,714,635.

B. Central Emergency Response Fund grant element: statement of changes in net assets from 1 January to 31 December 2014[a]

(United States dollars)

	Net assets
Net assets as at 31 December 2013 (United Nations system accounting standards)	141 207 053
Total International Public Sector Accounting Standards adjustment	319 398 170
Restated net assets as at 1 January 2014 (International Public Sector Accounting Standards)	**460 605 223**
Change in net assets	
Deficit	(196 674 763)
Total changes in net assets	**(196 674 763)**
Net assets as at 31 December 2014	**263 930 460**

[a] Statements were prepared in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards.

Annex II

Central Emergency Response Fund grant element: contributions pledged from 1 January to 31 December 2014

(United States dollars)

Contributor	*Pledged contributions*[a]
Member States and observers	
Andorra	20 538
Argentina	70 500
Armenia	5 000
Australia	14 330 180
Belgium	17 935 539
Brazil	1 200 000
Canada	28 627 068
Chile	30 000
China	500 000
Czech Republic	116 213
Denmark	26 095 630
Estonia	135 580
Finland	9 628 611
Germany	29 960 943
Guyana	2 179
Hungary	48 047
Iceland	100 000
India	500 000
Indonesia	200 000
Ireland	12 228 261
Italy	1 377 410
Japan	1 590 814
Kazakhstan	10 000
Kuwait	500 000
Liechtenstein	280 899
Luxembourg	5 434 783
Mali	99 985
Mexico	500 000
Monaco	67 935
Mongolia	10 000
Myanmar	20 000[b]
Netherlands	54 719 562
New Zealand	2 601 908
Norway	64 923 563

Contributor	*Pledged contributions*[a]
Pakistan	10 000
Peru	4 674
Poland	212 850
Portugal	67 935
Republic of Korea	4 000 000
Romania	53 000
Russian Federation	1 500 000
San Marino	9 970
Saudi Arabia	150 000
Singapore	50 000
South Africa	243 641
Spain	2 352 941
Sweden	74 633 378
Switzerland	7 760 532
Thailand	20 000
Trinidad and Tobago	20 000
Turkey	449 630
United Arab Emirates	100 000
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	111 826 453
United States of America	4 000 000
Viet Nam	20 000[b]
Sovereign Military Order of Malta	5 000
Total	**481 361 152**
Regional and local authorities	
Government of Flanders (Belgium)	407 609
State of South Australia (Australia)	307 557
Total	**715 166**
Others	
Private donations outside United Nations Foundation (under $50,000)	2 073
Private donations through United Nations Foundation (under $50,000)	145 448[c]
Cigna Foundation through the United Nations Foundation	_[d]
United Nations Women's Guild	59 917
Western Union through the United Nations Foundation	50 000[c]
Total	**257 438**
Total	**482 333 756**

(Footnotes on following page)

(Footnotes to table)

[a] Contributions are based on the pledged year of the donors and may differ from the originally recorded pledges, owing to fluctuations in exchange rates.

[b] The pledges for 2013 from Myanmar ($10,000) and Viet Nam ($10,000) were communicated and paid in 2014 and, therefore reported in 2014.

[c] Includes $65,787 collected through the United Nations Foundation in 2013 but received in 2014.

[d] Contribution of $50,000 was collected through the United Nations Foundation in 2014 but received in 2015. It will be reported in next year's report.

[e] Represents contribution of $50,000 collected through the United Nations Foundation in 2013 but received in 2014.

Annex III

Total grants allocated from the Central Emergency Response Fund from 1 January to 31 December 2014

(United States dollars)

Country or area	*Rapid response*	*Underfunded*	*Total disbursement*
South Sudan	53 671 180		53 671 180
Sudan	23 232 114	19 986 821	43 218 935
Ethiopia	20 982 700	11 593 620	32 576 320
Iraq	25 675 458		25 675 458
Central African Republic	25 138 067		25 138 067
Kenya	13 635 078	10 005 413	23 640 491
Chad	12 690 863	10 030 942	22 721 805
Somalia	1 450 242	19 993 757	21 443 999
Cameroon	13 809 670	4 508 705	18 318 375
Uganda	11 919 440	4 019 311	15 938 751
Pakistan	4 907 639	9 470 278	14 377 917
Yemen		13 897 833	13 897 833
Niger	5 181 281	7 962 500	13 143 781
Mali		11 443 365	11 443 365
Occupied Palestinian Territory	10 825 145		10 825 145
Haiti	2 668 206	6 205 232	8 873 438
Guinea	8 354 749		8 354 749
Democratic Republic of the Congo	6 956 312		6 956 312
Democratic People's Republic of Korea		6 497 012	6 497 012
Myanmar		5 532 909	5 532 909
Guatemala	5 445 619		5 445 619
Nigeria	1 458 309	3 546 645	5 004 954
Colombia		4 505 910	4 505 910
Senegal		4 500 298	4 500 298
Sierra Leone	4 497 599		4 497 599
Djibouti		3 997 512	3 997 512
Afghanistan	3 991 021		3 991 021
Ukraine	3 975 226		3 975 226
Burkina Faso		3 929 038	3 929 038
Congo	3 760 849		3 760 849
Mauritania		3 464 476	3 464 476
Libya	3 370 496		3 370 496
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	3 175 301		3 175 301
Paraguay	2 817 063		2 817 063
Honduras	2 600 021		2 600 021

Country or area	*Rapid response*	*Underfunded*	*Total disbursement*
Eritrea		2 489 251	2 489 251
Gambia		2 474 424	2 474 424
Serbia	2 164 276		2 164 276
Sri Lanka	2 052 680		2 052 680
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2 032 306		2 032 306
Burundi	1 978 455		1 978 455
Liberia	1 907 059		1 907 059
Nepal	1 870 201		1 870 201
Solomon Islands	1 776 122		1 776 122
Zimbabwe	773 181		773 181
Total	**290 743 928**	**170 055 252**	**460 799 180**

Note: The amount of total allocated funds in this annex is based on the approval of the Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator.

Annex IV

A. Central Emergency Response Fund loans: statement of financial performance from 1 January to 31 December 2014[a]

(United States dollars)

Revenue	
Investment revenue	10 987
Total	**10 987**
Expenses	
Other operating expenses[b]	10 987
Total	**10 987**
Surplus	–

[a] Statements were prepared in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards.

[b] Represents a transfer to the grant element of the Fund, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 66/119.

B. Central Emergency Response Fund loans: statement of changes in net assets from 1 January to 31 December 2014[a]

(United States dollars)

	Net assets
Net assets as at 31 December 2013 (United Nations system accounting standards)	30 000 000
Total International Public Sector Accounting Standards adjustment	–
Restated net assets as at 1 January 2014 (International Public Sector Accounting Standards)	**30 000 000**
Change in net assets	
Surplus	–
Total changes in net assets	–
Net assets as at 31 December 2014	**30 000 000**

[a] Statements were prepared in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards.

Annex V

Central Emergency Response Fund loans from 1 January to 31 December 2014

(United States dollars)

Agency	*Country/region*	*Year of disbursement*	*Amount*
Outstanding loans as at 1 January 2014			
World Food Programme	Syrian Arab Republic	2013	27 000 000
Total			**27 000 000**
Loans disbursed from 1 January to 31 December 2014			
Total			–
Loans repaid from 1 January to 31 December 2014			
Total			–
Outstanding loans as of 31 December 2014			
World Food Programme[a]	Syrian Arab Republic	2013	27 000 000
Total			**27 000 000**

[a] The loan was repaid on 26 March 2015.

United Nations A/70/97

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Seventieth session
Item 134 of the preliminary list*
Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

Implementation of projects financed from the Development Account: ninth progress report

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The Development Account is a capacity development programme of the United Nations Secretariat aimed at enhancing capacities of developing countries in the priority areas of the United Nations Development Agenda.

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/237, in which the Assembly decided to keep the implementation of the Development Account under review. It provides information on the policy context in which the Development Account operates, the implementation of projects funded from the Account since the submission of the eighth progress report (A/68/92) and an update on the management of the Account.

Since the launch of the Development Account in 1997, 315 projects have been approved, of which 111 projects are currently ongoing (eighth and ninth tranches). In addition, 33 new projects under the tenth tranche, including a project on the programme for statistics and data, are being presented to the General Assembly for its consideration as part of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (A/70/6 (Sect. 35)).

* A/70/50.

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I. Introduction

1. The purpose of the present report is to inform Member States of the performance and management of the Development Account. The mandate of the report is contained in General Assembly resolution 56/237, in which the Assembly reiterated its decision to continue to keep the implementation of the Account under review. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions subsequently recommended that the report be submitted in the context of the presentation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium concerned.

2. The Development Account was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 52/12 B as a mechanism to fund capacity development projects of the economic and social entities of the United Nations Secretariat: Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

3. Projects financed from the Development Account support capacity development in developing countries at the national, subregional, regional and interregional levels. The projects seek to ensure effective follow-up to the United Nations intergovernmental processes, most recently the consideration of the post-2015 development agenda, and serve as an operational extension of the normative and analytical work of the implementing entities. The Account serves as an important operational facility for testing new and innovative development approaches. When successful, such approaches can be scaled up and replicated for increased development results. The Account also provides a mechanism for promoting the exchange and transfer of skills, knowledge and good practices among target countries, including in different geographical regions, for example through South-South cooperation and through cooperation with a wider range of partners in the development assistance community.

4. Since the launch of the Development Account in 1997, 315 projects have been approved, of which 111 projects are currently ongoing (eighth and ninth tranches). In December 2014, the total amount approved by the General Assembly for the Development Account reached $181.3 million. The anticipated approval of the tenth tranche will add $28.4 million to the overall total for the financing of the additional 33 new projects, including a project on the programme for statistics and data. Details on individual projects, as well as all previous progress reports, are available on the Development Account website (www.un.org/esa/devaccount/).

5. A summary overview of all Development Account tranches can be found in annex I to the present report, and an update on the implementation status of the projects of the eighth and ninth tranches is provided in annex II.

II. The policy context in which the Development Account operates

6. With the target date for achieving the Millennium Development Goals set for the end of this year, 2015 marks a critical juncture for the international community. Much has been achieved, and much also remains to be done. One of the main outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20 Conference), held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012, was the agreement by Member States to launch a process to develop a set of sustainable development goals in the follow-up to the Millennium Development Goals. Drawing from the experience of the previous two decades, the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on the Sustainable Development Goals presented to the General Assembly in August 2014 its report (A/68/970 and Corr.1) containing proposals for 17 specific goals with 169 associated targets. The proposals will form the basis for considering the integration of sustainable development goals into the post-2015 development agenda during the intergovernmental negotiation process at the seventieth session of the General Assembly.

7. In his synthesis report on the post-2015 sustainable development agenda, entitled "The road to dignity by 2030: ending poverty, transforming all lives and protecting the planet" (A/69/700), the Secretary-General proposed a universal and transformative agenda for sustainable development. Among the many and complex challenges of implementing the agenda, the report highlighted the need for new development metrics, supported by a modern monitoring system for the achievement of the sustainable development goals, and improved availability of and access to data. The report also pointed to the need for the United Nations development system and its operational activities to respond to changes in the development landscape and for the United Nations system to be "fit for purpose" to deliver on the post-2015 sustainable development agenda.

8. Three important high-level international meetings that will shape the new era of sustainable development are to be held in 2015: (a) the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held in Addis Ababa in July; (b) the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, to be held in New York in September; and (c) the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to be held in Paris in December.

III. Overview and assessment of the achievements of the seventh tranche projects

9. A total of 66[1] projects were implemented between 2010 and 2013 in accordance with the guidelines established for the seventh tranche of the Development Account. The seventh tranche included four parts: (a) 15 projects funded from the $7.5 million financed from the final budget appropriation for the biennium 2008-2009 (General Assembly resolution 64/242 A); (b) 28 projects

[1] At the time of writing, final evaluation reports were available for 35 projects (34 final reports and 32 evaluation reports). Together with the project documents and progress reports for all the reviewed projects, these reports provide the main source documents for this report.

financed from the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 (Assembly resolution 64/244 A); (c) 12 projects financed from the residual balances of the first four tranches of the Account; and (d) 11 projects funded from the additional $5 million that the Assembly approved in its resolutions 64/243 and 64/244 A.

Responding to the needs and priorities of Member States

10. The medium- to long-term focus of the projects has allowed the Development Account to become a supportive vehicle for advancing the implementation of internationally agreed development goals and the outcomes of United Nations conferences and summits. The theme of the seventh tranche of the Development Account, "Support to addressing key global development challenges to further the achievement of internationally agreed development goals through collaboration at the global, regional and national levels", is reflective of this endeavour.

11. In the policy environment of the seventh tranche, as reflected in the intergovernmental debates, there was a greater focus on achieving the Millennium Development Goals, as well as addressing the effects on development of the 2008 global financial crisis. That is evidenced by the key summits and conferences during that period, including the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (Doha, 2008), the United Nations Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development (New York, 2009), the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals (New York, 2010) and the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (Istanbul, 2011). The build-up to the Rio+20 Conference provided strong guidance to the seventh tranche projects (see box 1).

Box 1
Sustainable development projects

The shift in the international development agenda to focus on sustainable development and climate change became notable through the Rio+20 Conference and its preparatory process. The seventh tranche effectively implemented 13 projects that targeted emissions reduction and sustainable energy. Nearly every implementing entity had a project that addressed sustainability and low-carbon issues.

12. A common concern raised at the Rio+20 Conference was limitations in monitoring progress in achieving Millennium Development Goal. The need to increase efforts in support of statistical capacity-building in developing countries had also been raised at the 2010 High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals (see box 2).

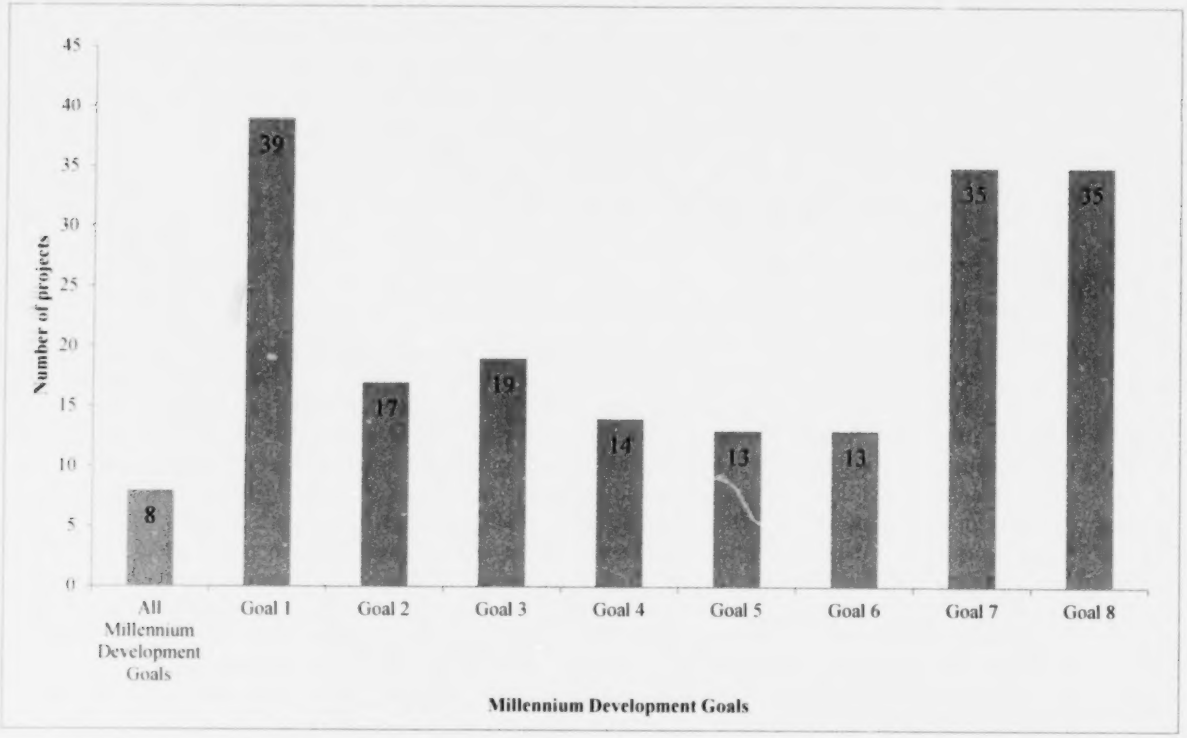
Box 2
Statistics

The holding of the 2010 High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and the formulation of the seventh tranche projects were well timed, leading to statistical capacity-building in developing countries being included as an area of focus in the formulation of the seventh tranche projects. Nine projects had a specific focus in this thematic area, and many more had strengthened statistical capacity as a side-effect of the project focus.

General focus of the seventh tranche of the Development Account

13. In line with the theme of the seventh tranche, all projects were implemented in support of one or more of the Millennium Development Goals (see figure I). Eradicating extreme hunger and poverty (Millennium Development Goal 1) was the most frequently supported goal, followed by ensuring environmental sustainability (Millennium Development Goal 7) and developing a global partnership for development (Millennium Development Goal 8). All three of these Millennium Development Goals were supported by more than half of the seventh tranche projects. The remaining Millennium Development Goals, however, also provided important direction for the projects. Promoting gender equality and empowerment of women (Millennium Development Goal 3), achieving universal primary education (Millennium Development Goal 2), reducing child mortality (Millennium Development Goal 4), improving maternal health (Millennium Development Goal 5) and combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases (Millennium Development Goal 6) were also supported by the seventh tranche projects.

Figure I
Millennium Development Goals addressed by projects*



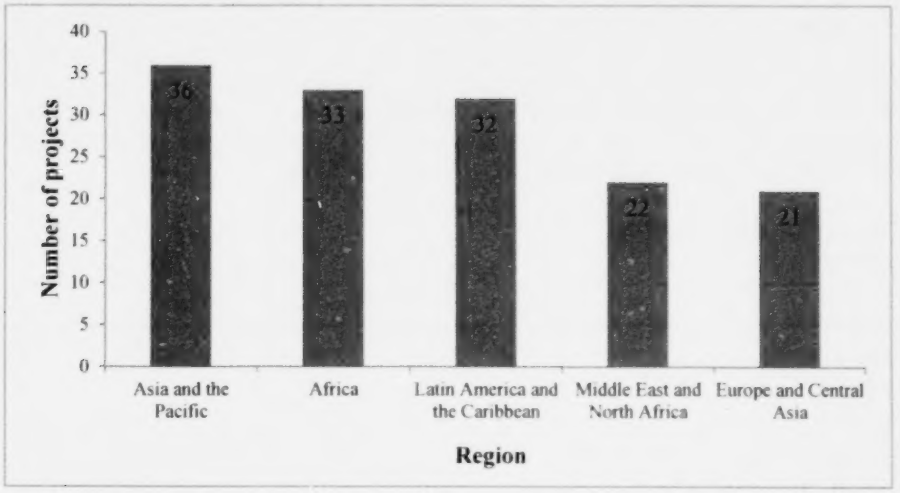
* Each project can simultaneously support several of the Millennium Development Goals. The sum of the figures above therefore exceeds the total number of projects.

Regions and types of countries covered in the seventh tranche projects

14. The seventh tranche projects focused on developing capacities of countries in the main developing regions of the world. As illustrated in figure II,[2] the seventh tranche projects were oriented towards building capacity in Asia, Africa and Latin America. More than half of the projects were implemented in at least one country in each of these regions. Moreover, one third of the projects focused on developing capacity in countries in the Middle East and North Africa and in Europe and Central Asia. Particular attention was paid to countries with special needs.

[2] Figure II shows the five regions covered by the regional commissions of the Economic and Social Council (ESCAP, ECA, ECLAC, ESCWA and ECE).

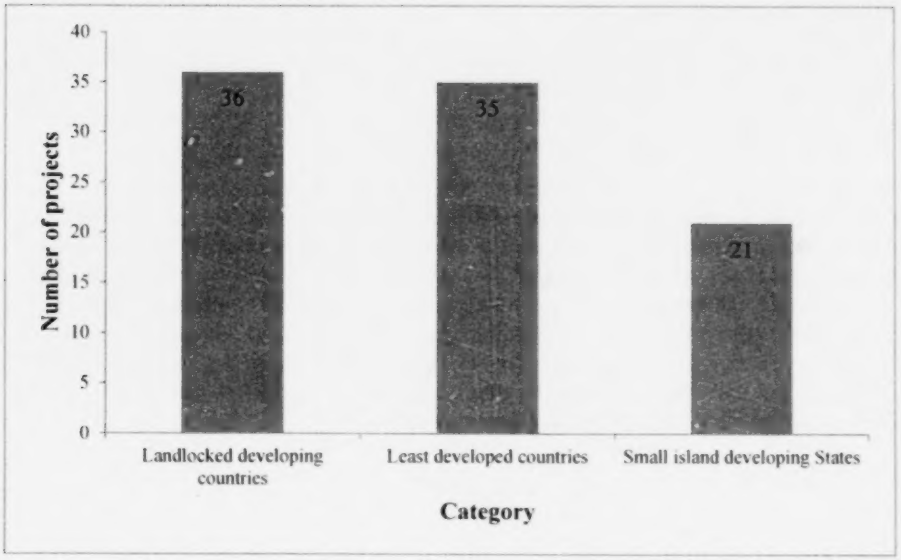
Figure II
Regions covered by projects*



* Projects may simultaneously support countries in several different regions. The sum of the figures provided above therefore exceeds the total number of projects.

15. As reflected in figure III, 55 per cent supported landlocked developing countries, 53 per cent provided assistance to least developed countries and 32 per cent sought to contribute to building capacity in small island developing States.

Figure III
Types of countries targeted by projects*



* Projects may simultaneously support countries in several different categories. The sum of the figures provided above therefore exceeds the total number of projects.

16. In about half of the seventh tranche projects, the focus was on a single geographical region. In general, these projects focused on multiple countries as a means of furthering South-South cooperation and facilitating opportunities for countries to learn from each other's experiences. This was also true for the projects with an interregional scope, benefiting countries in more than one region, which was the case for approximately a third of the projects. One in six of the projects had a global focus and included at least one beneficiary country from each of the five regions covered by the regional commissions of the Economic and Social Council (ECA, ECLAC, ESCAP, ECE and ESCWA) (see the table).

Scope of projects by entity

(Number of projects)

Entity	*Regional*	*Interregional*	*Global*	*Total*
DESA	5	6	2	13
ECA	4	1	1	6
ECE	2	1	2	5
ECLAC	6	–	1	7
ESCAP	4	2	1	7
ESCWA	4	1	–	5
UNCTAD	2	9	1	12
UNEP	1	2	2	5
UN-Habitat	1	1	1	3
UNODC	3	–	–	3
Total	**32**	**23**	**11**	**66**

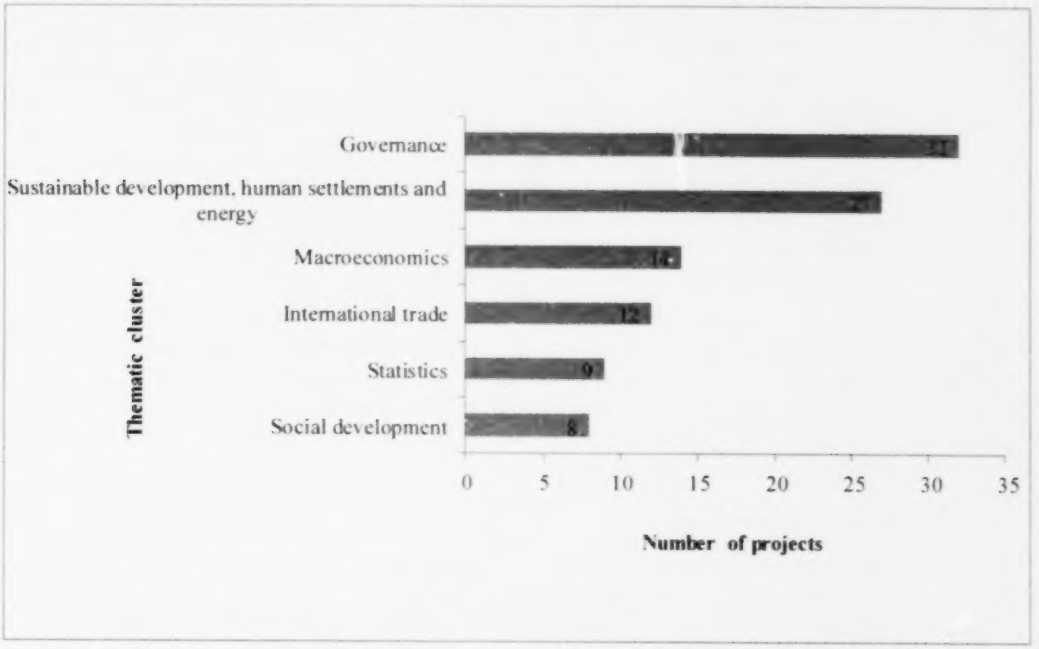
Specific focus of the projects

17. The seventh tranche projects covered a wide range of thematic areas building on the mandates and comparative advantages of the 10 implementing entities.[3] As projects were developed in direct response to requests from Member States, the areas thus reflect the needs and priorities of those States.

18. As shown in figure IV, the most commonly addressed theme was governance (32 projects). Examples of governance projects include the project on strengthening South-South cooperation to increase the affordability of sustainable energy options in Asia and the Pacific (project AQ (2008-2009) ESCAP), the project on strengthening coherence and coordination of development policies (project AK (2008-2009) Department of Economic and Social Affairs) and the project on strengthening regional knowledge networks to promote the effective implementation of the United Nations development agenda and to assess progress (project W (2010-2011) Department of Economic and Social Affairs).

[3] The thematic areas referenced in this section follow from the thematic clusters of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs.

Figure IV
Main thematic clusters addressed by projects*



* Many projects address several thematic clusters and are therefore counted under each relevant category.

19. The second most prevalent theme was sustainable development, human settlements and energy (27 projects). Examples of such projects include the project on building capacity of countries of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia to adopt and apply innovative clean technologies for climate change adaptation and sustainable knowledge-driven growth (project AN (2008-2009) ECE), the project on capacity development for cities in Asia and the Pacific to increase resilience to climate change impacts (project AN (2010-2011) UN-Habitat) and the project on strengthening national capacities to formulate and implement sustainable energy strategies (project AL (2010-2011) UNEP).

20. Macroeconomics was the third most frequently addressed theme (14 projects), with projects covering issues such as strengthening macroeconomic and social policy coherence through integrated macro-micro modelling (project AG (2008-2009) Department of Economic and Social Affairs) and enhancing the capacities of landlocked developing countries to attract foreign direct investment for development and modernize their productive capacities (project AJ (2010-2011) UNCTAD).

21. The thematic area of international trade was addressed in 12 projects, including a project on strengthening capacities in the ESCWA region to negotiate bilateral investment treaties (project M (2010-2011) ESCWA), a project on facilitating the effective integration of developing countries in the global economy through Aid for Trade schemes (project A (2010-2011) ECA) and a project on the

integration of the trade dimension into the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (project S (2010-2011) UNCTAD).

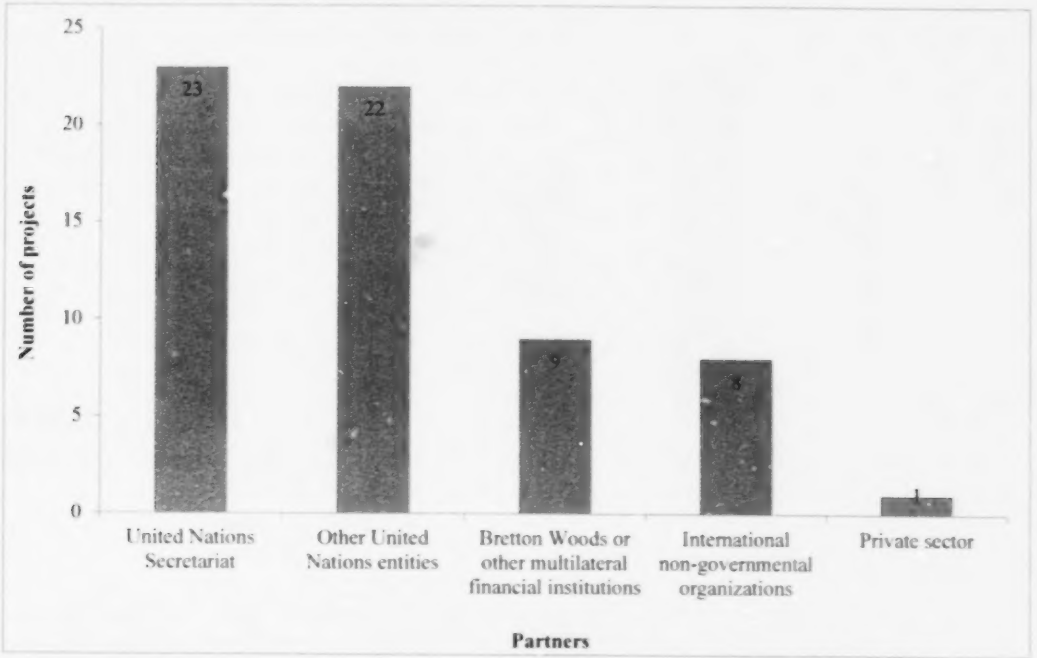
22. The thematic area of statistics was further addressed in nine projects, including a project on enhancing key statistics and indicators to monitor progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals (project AB (2010-2011) Department of Economic and Social Affairs), a project on building statistical capacity to monitor the Millennium Development Goal slum target in the context of natural disasters and housing crisis in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean (project AU (2008-2009) UN-Habitat) and a project on strengthening national statistical and inter-institutional capacities for monitoring the Millennium Development Goals through interregional cooperation and knowledge-sharing (project H (2010-2011) ECLAC).

23. The thematic area of social development was addressed in eight projects, including the project on strengthening social protection in Asia and the Pacific (project K (2010-2011) ESCAP) and the project on strengthening national capacities of policymakers in the ESCWA region to formulate national youth policies and plans of action: responding to the World Programme of Action for Youth (project A1 (2010-2011) ESCWA).

Project partnerships

24. Fostering partnerships throughout a project's lifespan is at the very core of the Development Account's strategy. With the involvement of partners, implementing entities are able to build upon the original project framework and expand their project's reach. Almost all of the projects reviewed (35 projects) were implemented through some type of partnership: 66 per cent of the reviewed projects were implemented through partnerships with United Nations Secretariat entities, 63 per cent were implemented through partnerships with other United Nations entities, 26 per cent were implemented through partnerships with the Bretton Woods institutions or other multilateral financial institutions, about 23 per cent were implemented through partnerships with international non-governmental organizations and 3 per cent were implemented through partnerships with the private (see figure V).

Figure V
Types of partners in projects*

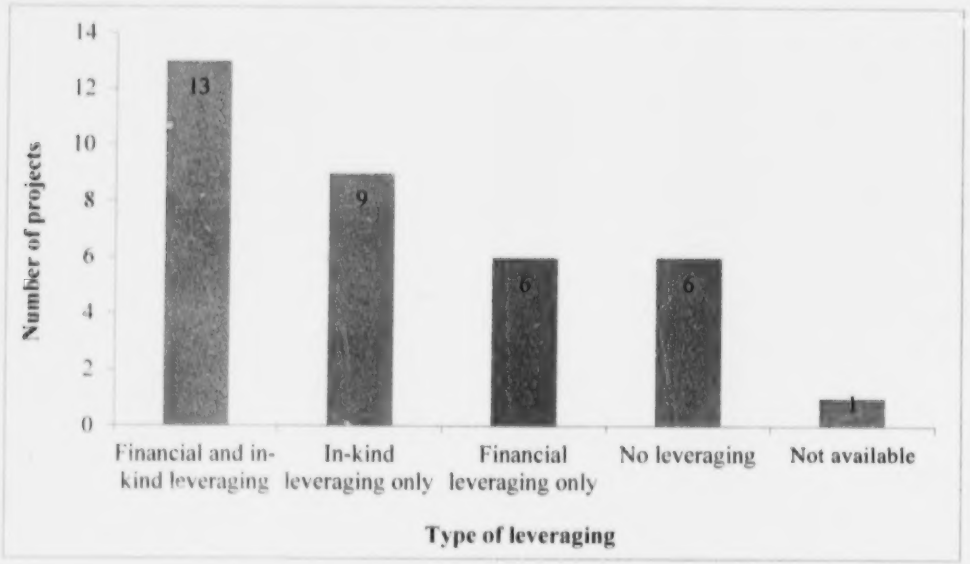


* Many projects engage with several types of partners and are therefore counted under each relevant category.

Leveraging project funding and initiatives

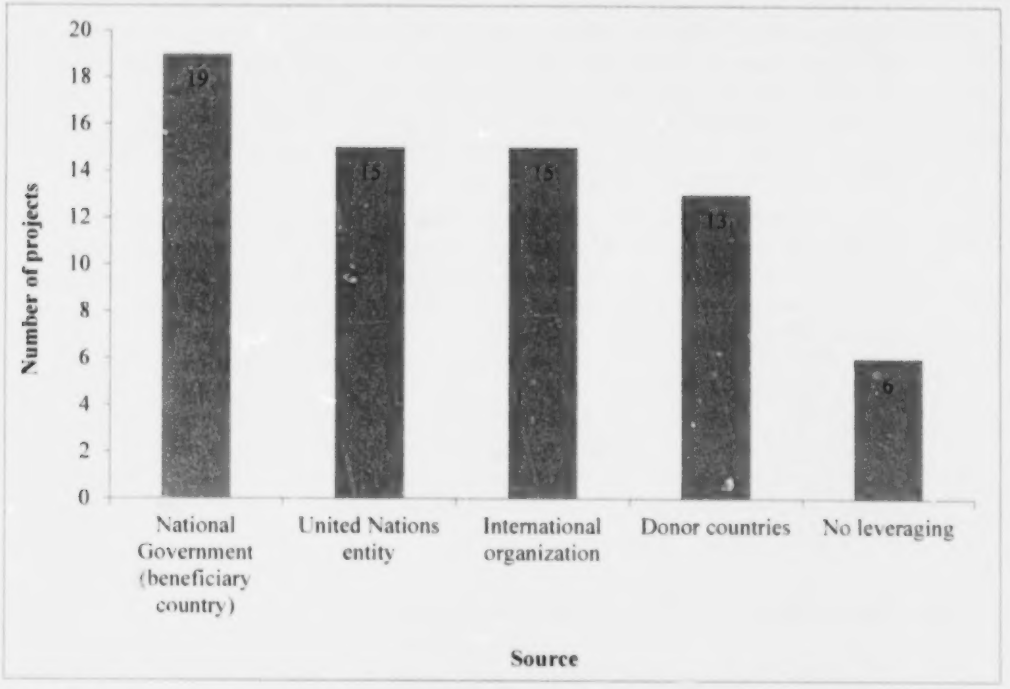
25. Partnerships also help ensure continuing support from invested parties beyond the project time frame. The leveraging of funds increases the potential that activities of a project will be continued and replicated with external funding and has multiplier effects. As shown in figure VI, 80 per cent of the seventh tranche projects reviewed were able to leverage resources, including financial leveraging (17 per cent), in-kind leveraging (26 per cent) or a combination of both (37 per cent). These relatively high percentages indicate that Development Account projects were viewed by other organizations as valuable and viable and as worthwhile investments of time and money.

Figure VI
Leveraging



26. As shown in figure VII, the most common source of funds leveraged for the reviewed seventh tranche projects was national Governments of beneficiary countries (19 projects), followed by United Nations entities (15 projects), other international organizations (15 projects) and Governments of non-beneficiary or donor countries (13 projects).

Figure VII
Sources of leveraging*



* Multiple counting: many projects leveraged from several types of partners and are therefore counted under each relevant category.

27. An example of a project in which leveraging funds from partners was a key feature include the UNCTAD project "Towards developing a global monitoring system in investment policies" (project AK (2010-2011) UNCTAD). Under this project, most of the costs (71 per cent) in connection with the three regional capacity-building workshops organized in Africa, Asia and Latin America were covered by project partner organizations, allowing UNCTAD to further the capacity development support provided through the project.

28. Many projects were also able to gain support from non-beneficiary donors, as demonstrated by the successful mobilization by ESCAP of funds from two Governments in the region for further implementation of key components of the project on improving disaster risk preparedness in the ESCAP region (project I (2010-2011) ESCAP). Similarly, UNCTAD was able to mobilize funds from the Governments of two Nordic countries to develop a virtual training module for its project on enhancing capacities of developing countries to mainstream gender in trade policy (project Q (2010-2011) UNCTAD).

Supporting sustainability of project results

29. Beneficiary countries' engagement with and contribution to Development Account projects were essential to the sustainability of their results. Development Account projects are developed in response to requests from beneficiary countries.

This means that the projects usually have strong political commitment from the countries. An example of such a project is the project on improving criminal justice responses to trafficking in persons in South-Eastern Europe with specific focus on the Republic of Moldova (project N (2010-2011) UNODC). Assessment of the needs and identification of priorities for this project were conducted in close cooperation with the project beneficiaries, ensuring their commitment to and ownership of the project. Cooperation with relevant national and international entities to counter human trafficking ensured complementarity with ongoing activities and policies and avoided duplication of efforts.

30. Adaptability is another important element in ensuring the sustainability of the achievements of a project. Maintaining a level of flexibility throughout the different implementation stages of a project ensures that beneficiary countries' interests are kept at the fore and that the project can be adjusted to meet changing needs. ESCAP, for example, succeeded in adapting its project on strengthening capacity in mitigating the impact of the financial crisis and sustaining dynamic and inclusive development in Asia and the Pacific (project AF (2010-2011) ESCAP); though the project had originally focused on strengthening capacity in mitigating the impact of the financial crisis, its scope was expanded in line with the different priorities of each subregion. At the time of completion of the project, the focus had shifted largely to regional cooperation issues critical to the region's resilience to future crises and sustained dynamism.

IV. Managing the Development Account for results

31. The Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs is the Programme Manager of the Development Account and is supported in the day-to-day management of the Account by a team in the Capacity Development Office of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. In 2012, the team was temporarily strengthened through the recruitment of a Monitoring and Evaluation Officer funded through a two-year Junior Professional Officer position from a donor country. Having a position dedicated to monitoring and evaluation made it possible to track more closely progress in the implementation of projects. It also allowed for good practices and strategies used in project design and implementation to be brought to the fore and for lessons learned to be adopted in the programming of subsequent projects. With the cessation of the Junior Professional Officer position at the end of 2014, new arrangements must be found to sustain the evaluation function.

32. The prompt programming of the ninth tranche projects was a key priority during the reporting period. The Associate Programme Officer (P-2) post approved by the General Assembly in December 2013 substantially helped with this task, as did the new operating methods introduced through the adoption of a new Governance and Management Architecture for the Development Account. By June 2014, six months after the launch of the ninth tranche, 56 per cent of all projects (26 out of 46 projects) had been approved for allotment, and by the end of 2014 the proportion had reached 87 per cent (40 out of 46 projects). This represents a significant improvement compared with previous tranches, as the programming of ninth tranche projects required less than half the time required for the corresponding programming of the seventh and eighth tranches.

33. In addition to the 46 projects approved for the ninth trance, 13 additional projects financed from residual balances from the fifth and sixth tranches of the Development Account were programmed during the course of 2014. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 56/237, according to which funds from underperforming projects may be redeployed to deliver better results, two projects of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs were reprogrammed: (a) project I (2014-2015), focusing on enhancing institutional capability in selected developing countries for monitoring and reporting on sustainable development objectives, goals and targets; and (b) project G (2014-2015), focusing on data-collection methodology and tools for supporting the formulation of evidence-based policies in response to the challenge of population ageing in sub-Saharan Africa.

34. The immediate priority of the Programme Manager in looking ahead will centre on the expeditious programming of the tenth tranche of the Development Account and the timely closing of the ninth tranche. The theme of the tenth tranche ("Supporting Member States in implementing the post-2015 development agenda: strengthening statistics and data, evidence-based policies and accountability") reflects the priorities of Member States.

35. The 33 new projects under the tenth tranche include a project on the programme for statistics and data that will help developing countries in building their capacities to measure and monitor the sustainable development goals. The $10 million programme is much larger than the average Development Account project ($650,000). It will be implemented as a unified and structured whole, rather than as an amalgamation of individual projects or proposals, and it will build on the ongoing dialogues, panels, debates and intergovernmental discussions that will shape and finalize the post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals. It will be demand-driven and country-owned, and it will be aimed at leveraging other statistical programmes and funding initiatives to achieve a higher multiplier effect. It will actively seek engagement, alignment and coherence with statistical capacity development programmes of other United Nations entities in order for the United Nations system to "Deliver as one", reflecting the joint responsibility of all United Nations agencies to support countries in establishing an effective and sustainable information infrastructure.

V. Conclusions and recommendations

36. **The Development Account is a unique funding mechanism through which Member States have access to the full range of knowledge and expertise available in the economic and social entities of the United Nations Secretariat — the 10 implementing entities of the Development Account (Department of Economic and Social Affairs, ECLAC, ESCAP, ESCWA, ECE, ECA, UNCTAD, UNEP, UN-Habitat and UNODC). The Development Account projects are developed in direct response to requests from countries with the aim of enhancing capacities in the areas of their priority needs. The theme of the tenth tranche is "Supporting Member States in implementing the post-2015 development agenda: strengthening statistics and data, evidence-based policies and accountability"; the tenth tranche includes a new $10 million project on the programme for statistics and data that represents a major milestone for the Development Account. The programme will provide a new and innovative approach allowing the 10 implementing entities of the Account to work closely together and**

capitalize on their individual technical expertise and comparative advantages and to help developing countries face the data challenges of the sustainable development goals by strengthening national statistical systems.

37. The reporting period saw the seventh tranche of the Development Account being successfully brought to a close. The projects were developed in direct response to requests from Member States for assistance in meeting their priority needs and were implemented in all major development regions of the world.

38. The reporting period also saw the launch of the ninth tranche of the Development Account, as well as the programming of 13 projects financed from the residual balances of the fifth and sixth tranches. The approval process for these projects was significantly shortened compared with the approval process for projects of previous tranches, leaving more time to implement the projects on the ground in the beneficiary countries.

39. The programming of the tenth tranche projects drew important inputs and lessons learned from the evaluation of seventh tranche projects. The temporary Monitoring and Evaluation Officer funded through a two-year Junior Professional Officer position was instrumental in this regard. In moving forward, it will be very important to continue and further strengthen this practice through the systematic review of project progress reports, as well as final and external evaluation reports, and the extraction and distillation of lessons learned from the implementation of projects.

40. Looking ahead, important next steps in the management of the Development Account will include the expeditious programming of the tenth tranche projects and the timely closing of the ninth tranche projects. The Secretariat, in this connection, stands ready to continue to provide effective support to the Account for the benefit of developing Member States.

41. The General Assembly may wish to take note of the present report.

Annex I

Summary of Development Account tranches as at 30 April 2015

Biennium	*Theme*	*Tranche*	*Approved (thousands of United States dollars)*	*General Assembly resolution*	*Total number of projects*	*Number of active projects*	*Implementation period*	*Status as at 30 April 2015 (percentage)*
1998-1999	Support for the implementation of global conferences	1	13 065.00	53/220 A	7	–	–	Closed
2000-2001	Networking and regional and subregional expertise	2	13 065.00	54/249	16	–	–	Closed
2002-2003	Capacity-building for managing globalization	3	13 065.00	56/254 A	20	–	–	Closed
2004-2005	Capacity-building for Millennium Development Goals through partnerships, knowledge-management and taking advantage of information and communications technologies	4	13 065.00	58/270	23	–	–	Closed
2006-2007	Supporting progress towards the internationally agreed development goals, through knowledge-management, networking and partnerships	5	13 065.00	60/247	24	–	–	Closed
		5A	3 415.90	60/246 and 61/252	6	–	–	Closed
		5B	5 071.00	62/235	10	–	–	Closed
2008-2009	Supporting progress towards achieving internationally agreed development goals, through innovation, networking and knowledge-management	6	16 480.90	62/237	27	–	–	Closed
		6A	2 170.40	62/236, 62/237 and 62/238	5	–	–	Closed
		6B	7 500.00	64/242 A	15	–	–	Closed
2010-2011	Support to addressing key global development challenges to further the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, through collaboration at the global, regional and national levels	7	18 651.30	64/244 A	28	–	–	Closed
		7A	4 000.00	Residual balances from tranches 1-4	12	–	–	Closed
		7B	5 000.00	64/243 and 64/244	11	–	–	Closed
2012-2013	Supporting Member States to accelerate progress towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in the context of the multiple and interrelated development challenges	8	23 651.30	66/248 A	40	40	2012-2015	57
		8A	5 591.90	66/246	12	12	2012-2015	37
2014-2015	Supporting Member States in designing and implementing strategies and policies towards sustainable, equitable and inclusive development	9	28 398.80	68/248 A	46	46	2014-2017	10
		9A	7 113.00	Residual balances from tranches 5-6	13	13	2014-2017	3
Total approved			**181 256.50**		**315**	**111**		

Biennium	*Theme*	*Tranche*	*Approved (thousands of United States dollars)*	*General Assembly resolution*	*Total number of projects*	*Number of active projects*	*Implementation period*	*Status as at 30 April 2015 (percentage)*
2016-2017	Supporting Member States in implementing the post-2015 development agenda: strengthening statistics and data, evidence-based policies and accountability	10	28 398.80	Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (A/70/6 (Sect. 35))	33	–	2016-2019	–
	Grand total		**209 655.20**[a]		**348**			

[a] Excludes $4,000,000, representing the residual balance from tranches 1 to 4 that was programmed in the context of the seventh tranche, and $7,113,000, representing the residual balance from tranches 5 to 6 that was programmed in the context of the ninth tranche.

Annex II

Update on the status of the eighth and ninth tranches: implementation rates

Table A.1

Projects funded from section 36, Development Account, of the programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (eighth tranche) as at 30 April 2015

	Project title	*Implementing office*	*Approved (A)*	*Expenditures (B)*	*Implementation rate (percentage) (B)/(A)*
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		
A	Capacity-building for removing constraints in utilizing international support measures for least developed countries	DESA	670.0	462.2	69
B	Strengthening capacities of the public sector in least developed countries to deliver quality services equitably through the transfer and adaptation of innovative practices	DESA	640.3	477.2	75
C	Strengthening national capacities of conflict-affected countries to manage water scarcity and droughts	DESA	570.0	417.7	73
D	Strengthening the capacity of selected developing countries to mainstream sustainable development into national development strategies	DESA	650.0	280.7	43
E	Climate change financing for forests: reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation-plus (REDD+) and its impacts on financing for other functions of forests worldwide	DESA	600.0	310.7	52
F	Fostering private-public partnerships and strengthening national capacities for designing, implementing and evaluating development-oriented macroeconomic policy to generate employment, growth and poverty reduction	DESA	400.0	239.1	60
G	Measuring the green economy in support of the Development Goals: statistical frameworks, indicators and instruments	DESA	800.0	481.6	60
H	Strengthening geospatial information management capacities of Member States in development decision-making	DESA	400.0	327.6	82
I	Supporting small island developing States in their efforts to build economic resilience	UNCTAD	397.0	149.2	38
J	Accelerating progress of selected West African countries towards the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, particularly Millennium Development Goal 8, through trade-related training and capacity-building	UNCTAD	577.0	478.7	83
K	Capacity-building for the formulation and implementation of Millennium Development Goal-oriented trade policies in developing countries contributing to accelerating achievement of Millennium Development Goals in the context of multiple and interrelated development challenges	UNCTAD	694.0	131.8	19
L	Addressing the impact of trade and trade agreements on employment in developing countries	UNCTAD	232.0	57.1	25

	Project title	Implementing office	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage) (B)/(A)
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		
M	Strengthening of capacities of trade and planning ministries of selected least developed countries on developing and implementing trade strategies that are conducive to poverty reduction	UNCTAD	641.0	385.6	60
N	Building national capacities for promoting direct foreign investment in green and other growth sectors	UNCTAD	461.0	287.0	62
O	Promoting sustainable business models for development: investing in the poor, for the poor and with the poor	UNCTAD	462.0	314.9	68
P	Strengthening macroeconomic management capacities for regional and interregional monetary and financial cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean and West and Central Africa	UNCTAD	555.0	91.7	16.5
Q	Mainstreaming ecosystem service into countries' sectoral and macroeconomic policies and programmes	UNEP	542.0	434.5	80
R	Integrating environmental sustainability in the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and the United Nations common country programming process	UNEP	541.0	350.6	65
S	Development of a review system for the effective national implementation of multilateral environmental agreements	UNEP	543.0	–	–
T	Strengthening the capacities of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) member States to address the land and property issues of internally displaced persons and refugees, with a specific emphasis on women's land and property rights	UN-Habitat	452.0	291.5	65
U	Strengthening capacity of policymakers in South-East Asia for promoting policies and developing plans for improved wastewater treatment and reuse in urban and peri-urban areas	UN-Habitat	348.0	322.6	93
V	Integrating crime, corruption, drugs and terrorism-related issues into the preparation of national development plans and processes	UNODC	650.0	–	–
W	Strengthening the capacity of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics systems in Member States to produce continuous and reliable indicators for measuring progress on the development agenda	ECA	682.0	411.3	60
X	Strengthening capacity of African countries to promote the use of renewable energy to achieve sustainable development	ECA	703.0	266.6	38
Y	Strengthening the capacity of African countries to use mobile technologies to collect data for effective policy and decision-making[a]	ECA	1 845.0	1 582.1	86
Z	Strengthening capacities for the development of regional agricultural value chains in Africa	ECA	499.0	78.5	16
AA	Strengthening the capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to facilitate legitimate border crossing, regional cooperation and integration	ECE	750.0	473.7	63

	Project title	Implementing office	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage) (B)/(A)
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		
AB	Promoting energy efficiency investments for climate change mitigation and sustainable development	ECE	1 250.0	1 234.4	99
AC	Towards productivity convergence: trade, financing and innovation for small-scale enterprises	ECLAC	575.0	215.0	37.4
AD	Towards a low-carbon economy: policy options for energy efficiency and innovation	ECLAC	478.0	393.5	82
AE	Time for equality: strengthening the institutional framework of social policies	ECLAC	661.0	458.5	69
AF	Strengthening the capacities of selected Latin American and Asian countries to develop and improve training systems and to protect workers against unemployment	ECLAC	754.5	514.8	68
AG	Strengthening information and communications technology capacities for disaster risk reduction and development: addressing information, knowledge and policy gaps in Asia	ESCAP	600.6	173.2	29
AH	Strengthening capacities in countries with special needs on designing and implementing economic and social development policies to accelerate progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals	ESCAP	643.5	179.7	28
AI	Interregional cooperation to strengthen national capacities to measure progress in achieving gender equality and women's empowerment	ESCAP	686.4	440.6	64
AJ	Deepening regional connectivity: strengthening capacities of Asian developing countries to increase intraregional trade by implementing paperless trade and transport facilitation systems	ESCAP	854.0	539.0	63
AK	Institutional and capacity-building project for Arab parliaments and other stakeholders for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security	ESCWA	510.0	97.0	19
AL	Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders in the ESCWA Region (AIGLE)	ESCWA	509.0	233.7	46
AM	Developing the capacities of the Arab countries for climate change adaptation by applying integrated water resource management tools	ESCWA	517.0	160.8	31
AN	Strengthening capacities to utilize workers' remittances in financing for development	ESCWA	464.0	302.7	65
	Total (eighth tranche)[b]		**24 807.3**	**14 047.5**	**57**
AO	Developing capacity for e-participation: engaging citizens in development policy and decision-making processes through information and communications technologies	DESA	362.9	192.5	53
AP	Supporting Governments transiting to low-carbon growth and human development using economy-wide models	DESA	380.0	249.2	66

	Project title	Implementing office	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage) (B)/(A)
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		
AQ	Supporting national dialogues on the post-2015 development agenda in the context of the annual ministerial review	DESA	375.0	147.7	39
AR	Strengthening capacities of African countries in boosting intra-African trade	UNCTAD	490.0	96.9	20
AS	Capacity-building for science, technology and innovation policy management in developing countries	UNCTAD	410.0	9.2	2
AT	Promoting microcatchment planning and replicable low-cost green investment strategies to improve urban drinking water supply in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Central Africa	UNEP	390.0	52.9	14
AU	Capacity development to increase Asia and Pacific cities' resilience to climate change	UN-Habitat	382.0	238.9	63
AV	Capacity-building on agribusiness for women to enhance food security in Eastern Africa	ECA	520.0	–	–
AW	Sustainable forest management for greener economies in the Caucasus and Central Asia	ECE	500.0	422.8	85
AX	Strengthening the capacity of national Governments to promote the social inclusion of youth within a context of increasing violence and insecurity, through innovative programmes and evidence-based policies	ECLAC	500.0	112.9	23
AY	Building capacity and facilitating private sector involvement for infrastructure development for less developed countries in the Asia-Pacific region	ESCAP	691.0	165.4	24
AZ	Building capacities in developing appropriate green technologies for improving the livelihood of rural communities in the ESCWA region	ESCWA	591.0	189.7	32
	Total (eighth tranche-A)		**5 591.9**	**1 877.9**	**34**

Abbreviations: ESCAP, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; ESCWA, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia; ECE, Economic Commission for Europe; ECLAC, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; ECA, Economic Commission for Africa; UNCTAD, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; UNEP, United Nations Environment Programme; UN-Habitat, United Nations Human Settlements Programme.

[a] Funds from redeployed project M (2008-2009), project C (2010-2011) and project Y (2012-2013).

[b] Including redeployed projects from tranches 6B and 7 in the amount of $1,156,000 (ECA project Y).

Table A.2

Projects funded from section 35, Development Account, of the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 (ninth tranche) as at 30 April 2015

	Project title	*Implementing entity*	*Approved (A)*	*Expenditures (B)*	*Implementation rate (percentage) [(B)/(A)]*100*
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		
A	Strengthening the capacity of national tax administrations in developing countries to effectively negotiate and apply double tax treaties for the financing of sustainable development	DESA	632.0	153.4	24
B	Supporting Member States in developing and strengthening environment statistics and integrated environmental-economic accounting for improved monitoring of sustainable development	DESA	691.0	–	–
C	Strengthening the capacity of small island developing States to assess progress in the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy to mitigate risks and reduce vulnerability	DESA	588.0	–	–
D	Supporting developing countries in their transition from Millennium Development Goals-based development strategies to broader sustainable development strategies through modelling-based policy analyses	DESA	630.0	4.6	1
E	Enhancing the capacity of Governments and indigenous leaders to ensure social integration and inclusive development in Africa and Asia	DESA	524.0	–	–
F	Strengthening the capacities of developing countries in sub-Saharan Africa to effectively produce and use population data in policymaking for sustainable development	DESA	588.0	–	–
G	Strengthening the capacities of selected developing countries to design national strategies for sustainable development through participatory approaches, building on the national voluntary presentations in the Economic and Social Council	DESA	395.8	–	–
H	Strengthening the capacities of developing countries to provide access to information for sustainable development through open government data	DESA	592.0	108.8	18
I	Strengthening the capacities of selected developing countries for effective subnational development policy formulation and planning towards sustainable development	DESA	639.0	–	–
J	Strengthening national capacities to develop national action plans to implement the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests	DESA	413.0	6.8	2
K	Building the capacity of developing countries' policymakers to address regulatory and institutional gaps in the field of sovereign debt governance	UNCTAD	588.0	111.1	19
L	Supporting Member States in developing and launching sustainable product export strategies through national sustainable product export reviews	UNCTAD	590.0	110.4	19
M	Building the capacities of selected least developed countries to upgrade and diversify their fish exports	UNCTAD	596.0	–	–

	Project title	Implementing entity	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage) [(B)/(A)]*100
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		
N	Strengthening the capacities of policymakers to assess the implications of non-tariff measures in international trade and formulate appropriate policy responses	UNCTAD	620.0	18.3	3
O	Climate change impacts on coastal transport infrastructure in the Caribbean: enhancing the adaptive capacity of small island developing States	UNCTAD	595.0	2.3	–
P	Strengthening the capacity of the Economic Community of Central African States to enhance domestic production linkages with the mineral resources sector	UNCTAD	641.0	3.0	–
Q	Building the capacities of developing countries to shift towards sustainable freight transport	UNCTAD	611.0	70.0	11
R	Strengthening the capacities of developing country policymakers and investment promotion officials and academia in priority sectors to attract investment for sustainable and inclusive development	UNCTAD	585.0	–	–
S	Building sustainable and resilient ecological food systems using ecosystem-based adaptation in agriculture-dominated landscapes in sub-Saharan Africa	UNEP	633.0	–	–
T	Supporting developing countries in delivering sustainable consumption and production services at the country level	UNEP	651.0	–	–
U	Enabling sustainable and resilient development in post-crisis countries by mainstreaming environment and risk reduction into development planning	UNEP	521.0	–	–
V	Strengthening capacities to address land tenure security in Africa through better monitoring and information	UN-Habitat	501.0	50.0	10
W	Strengthening national capacities to formulate and adopt housing and slum upgrading strategies	UN-Habitat	629.0	152.0	24
X	Strengthening the capacities of Member States in the Asia-Pacific region to mainstream climate change concerns into national urban-related policies	UN-Habitat	730.0	213.0	29
Y	Strengthening the capacity of African countries to use mobile technologies to collect and disseminate data for effective policy and decision-making	ECA	1 165.0	–	–
Z	Strengthening capacity for policy analysis, forecasting and development planning in selected African countries	ECA	634.0	89.0	14
AA	Strengthening the capacity of African Governments to negotiate transparent, equitable and sustainable contracts in extractive industries for broad-based sustainable growth and socioeconomic development	ECA	635.0	–	–
AB	Strengthening the capacity of the African Peer Review Mechanism countries in conducting effective self-assessment and implementing national plans of action	ECA	624.0	59.4	10
AC	Strengthening national capacities for sustainable housing in selected countries with economies in transition	ECE	533.0	143.1	27
AD	Strengthening national capacity in the most vulnerable countries in the Economic Commission for Europe region for the sustainable development of statistics	ECE	535.0	148.6	28

	Project title	Implementing entity	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage) [(B)/(A)]*100
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		
AE	Strengthening the capacity of transition and developing economies to participate in cross-border agricultural food supply chains	ECE	440.0	19.4	4
AF	Strengthening Governments' and water operators' capacity to ensure equity of access to water and sanitation in countries in transition in the Economic Commission for Europe region, with a particular focus on small-scale water supplies and sanitation in rural areas	ECE	578.0	102.3	18
AG	Strengthening the technical capacity of public finance managers in select Caribbean small island developing States to manage their public finances	ECLAC	492.0	69.6	14
AH	Promoting inclusive finance through development banking innovation practices to support social, productive development and structural change with a particular focus on small and medium-sized enterprises in Latin American countries	ECLAC	502.0	–	–
AI	Strengthening statistical capacities for building macroeconomic and sustainable development indicators in Latin American, Caribbean and Asia-Pacific countries	ECLAC	862.0	303.8	35
AJ	Logistics integration for more sustainable exploitation of natural resources in Latin America and the Caribbean	ECLAC	612.0	65.9	11
AK	Strengthening national capacities to design and implement rights-based policies and programmes that address care of dependent populations and women's economic empowerment in urban areas	ECLAC	564.0	64.6	11
AL	Enhancing the contribution of preferential trade agreements to inclusive and equitable trade	ESCAP	742.0	–	–
AM	Strengthening the capacity of Governments in the regions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia to respond to the needs of youth in formulating inclusive and sustainable development policies	ESCAP	960.0	262.8	27
AN	Enhancing knowledge and capacity for the management of disaster risks for a resilient future in Asia and the Pacific	ESCAP	678.0	95.3	14
AO	Strengthened capacity of small island developing States in the Asia-Pacific region with regard to the valuation of environmental capital and the economic cost of gender inequality	ESCAP	638.0	6.5	1
AP	Strengthening the connectivity of countries in South and Central Asia, particularly landlocked and least developed countries, to link with subregional and regional transport and trade networks	ESCAP	632.0	15.4	2
AQ	Strengthening the statistical capacity of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia member countries in producing and disseminating short-term economic indicators for sustainable growth	ESCWA	518.0	38.2	7
AR	Strengthening national capacities for integrated, sustainable and inclusive population and development policies in the Arab region	ESCWA	714.0	1.9	–

	Project title	Implementing entity	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage) (B)/(A)*100
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		
AS	Promoting renewable energy investments for climate change mitigation and sustainable development	ESCWA	632.0	124.1	20
AT	Developing the capacity of Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia member countries to address the water and energy nexus for achieving sustainable development goals	ESCWA	525.0	5.1	1
	Total (ninth tranche)		**28 398 800**	**2 618.6**	**9**
AU	Enhancing national statistical capacity to measure, monitor, assess and report on progress on achieving post-2015 goals and targets for sustainable development	DESA	556.0	–	–
AV	Strengthening capacity of national tax administrations and ministries of finance in developing countries to protect and broaden their tax base for financing of sustainable development	DESA	360.0	–	–
AW	Supporting small island developing States in their efforts to build economic resistance	UNCTAD	488.0	–	–
AX	Support developing country policymakers in the formulation of national entrepreneurship policies through the implementation of entrepreneurship policy frameworks	UNCTAD	478.0	–	–
AY	Environmental peacebuilding for sustainable development in Africa	UNEP	558.0	–	–
AZ	Urban risk reduction and resilience building in lusophone Africa	UN-Habitat	559.0	101.2	18
BA	Strengthening and enhancing the capacity of law enforcement officials in combating travelling child sex offenders in Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam	UNODC	557.0	–	–
BB	Strengthening Member States' capacities in designing and implementing strategies and policies for sustainable cities in Africa	ECA	496.0	–	–
BC	Strengthening the national road safety management capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition	ECE	498.0	–	–
BD	Strengthening the capacity of Central American countries in the preparation of sustainable energy policies and strategies	ECLAC	500.0	–	–
BE	Financing strategies for inclusive and sustainable development for Asia and the Pacific	ESCAP	499.0	–	–
BF	Establishing national technology development and transfer systems in select ESCWA member States	ESCWA	497.0	–	–

	Project title	Implementing entity	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage) (B)/(A)*100
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		
BG	Promoting equality: strengthening the capacity of select developing countries to design and implement equality-oriented public policies and programmes	Five regional commissions (ECA, ECE, ECLAC, ESCAP, ESCWA)	1 067.0	–	–
	Total (ninth tranche-B)		**7 113 000**	**101.2**	**1**

Abbreviations: ESCAP, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; ESCWA, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia; ECE, Economic Commission for Europe; ECLAC, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; ECA, Economic Commission for Africa; UNCTAD, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; UNEP, United Nations Environment Programme; UN-Habitat, United Nations Human Settlements Programme.